

**Guided Reading Activity I****Physical Features**

**Directions: Summarizing** Read this section in your textbook to fill in the blanks below.

Waterways surround North Africa, Southwest Asia, and Central Asia. The (1) \_\_\_\_\_ connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Mediterranean Sea. The (2) \_\_\_\_\_ is a human-made waterway that allows ships to pass from the Mediterranean to the (3) \_\_\_\_\_. This region has a rugged landscape. The (4) \_\_\_\_\_ is a narrow gap in the (5) \_\_\_\_\_, and has been used as a trade route. Because of the region's dry land, people settled in (6) \_\_\_\_\_. Ancient Egyptians relied on the yearly flooding of the (7) \_\_\_\_\_.

The largest reserves of oil and natural gas are found in the (8) \_\_\_\_\_, where the land is made up of (9) \_\_\_\_\_ rock. Other resources include coal, iron ore, and (10) \_\_\_\_\_, or mineral salts. (11) \_\_\_\_\_ is a scarce resource. The (12) \_\_\_\_\_ has almost dried up, but recent efforts have been made to save it. Land in the region has been harmed. As irrigation water dries, it leaves behind deposits of (13) \_\_\_\_\_, which makes the land less fertile. In Egypt, the (14) \_\_\_\_\_ blocks the flow of (15) \_\_\_\_\_, so expensive (16) \_\_\_\_\_ must be used. (17) \_\_\_\_\_ pollution is also a problem, caused by car fumes and chemicals released by (18) \_\_\_\_\_.